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**Connecticut State Medical Society**  
**Testimony in Support of House Bill 6269 An Act Concerning Mental Health Services For**  
**Homeless youth**  
**Public Health Committee**  
**March 4, 2015**

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and members of the Public Health Committee, on behalf of the physicians and physicians in training of the Connecticut State Medical Society (CSMS) thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony to you today in support of **House Bill 6269 An Act Concerning Mental Health Services For Homeless youth.**

CSMS and its physician members have long advocated for parity in access to mental health services and increased resources to provide treatment for those suffering from mental health illness. Unfortunately, many of our youth suffering from mental health issues fall through the cracks. Even in situations in which our safety net identifies these children as in need of services, access and resource do not exist to properly treat these compromised children.

CSMS supports HB 6269 to require the Department of Children and Families and the Department of Mental Health And Addiction Services to identify these at risk children and connect them to services.

Please support HB 6269